

No. _____

In the
SUPREME COURT of the UNITED STATES

In re

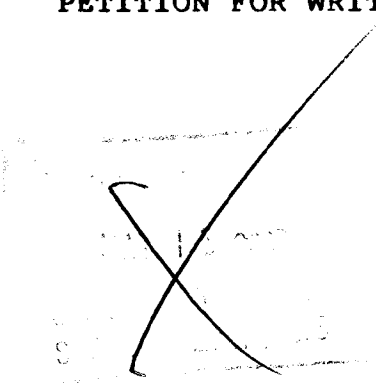
Robert STEVENSON,

Petitioner.

ON PETITION FOR A WRIT OF HABEAS CORPUS

The United States District Court
Eastern District of California—Sacramento

PETITION FOR WRIT OF HABEAS CORPUS



Robert Setevenson
Folsom State Prison
P.O. Box 710571
Represa, CA. 95671-0071
CDC ID#: P-12312
Pro se

QUESTIONS PRESENTED

I.

WAS THE DISTRICT COURT'S DENIAL OF PETITIONER'S "REQUEST FOR CERTIFICATE OF APPEALABILITY" A VIOLATION OF FUNDAMENTAL FAIRNESS ON THE EXHAUSTED ISSUES PRESENTED BELOW UNDER ARTICLE I, § 9, CLAUSE 2, FIRST AND FOURTEENTH AMENDMENTS, UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION?

II.

WAS THE AGGRAVATED STATE SENTENCE OF ELEVEN YEARS BASED UPON THE SAME FACTS AS THE SENTENCING ENHANCEMENT OF FOUR YEARS WITHOUT JURISDICTION AS A VIOLATION OF THE DOUBLE JEOPARDY CLAUSE UNDER THE FIFTH AND FOURTEENTH AMENDMENTS, UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION?

III.

WAS TRIAL COURT'S INSTRUCTION TO PETITIONER'S JURY ON MURDER CHARGES A VIOLATION OF FUNDAMENTAL FAIRNESS, AND THE RIGHT TO A FAIR AND IMPARTIAL JURY UNDER THE SIXTH AND FOURTEENTH AMENDMENTS, UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION?

IV.

WAS PETITIONER DENIED THE EFFECTIVE ASSISTANCE OF COUNSEL ON THE DEFENSE OF "IMPERFECT SELF-DEFENSE" AT TRIAL IN VIOLATION OF THE SIXTH AND FOURTEENTH AMENDMENTS, UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION?

REASONS FOR NOT MAKING THE APPLICATION TO THE
DISTRICT IN WHICH THE APPLICANT IS HELD

(28 U.S.C. § 2242/SUPREME COURT RULES, RULE 20.4 (a))

On January 18, 2002, Petitioner did make an application to the district court, such application having been decided by that Court on August 5, 2002. (See Appendix A.)

Upon Petitioner's timely request, no certificate of appealability was issued under 28 U.S.C. § 2253, and the courts below have divested jurisdiction to consider Petitioner's questions therefore. (See id.) Petitioner cannot obtain adequate relief on his questions presented in any other form or from any other court, except by habeas corpus to this Court.

The issues presented on judgment of the State Court below are exhausted with the State Courts, to satisfy the requirements of 28 U.S.C. § 2254 (b) (see Appendix J), have been finally decided by the federal courts, and no relief is available from any other court in this land.

The requirements of Rule 20.4 (a) are satisfied as to this Court's jurisdictional requirements of comity.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

OPINIONS BELOW. 1.

JURISDICTION. 2.

CONSTITUTIONAL AND STATUTORY PROVISIONS INVOLVED. 3.

STATEMENT OF THE CASE.

 a. Jurisdiction of the Case. 6.

 b. Facts of the Case. 8.

 c. The State Court Opinion. 12.

 d. The Collateral Application. 13.

 e. The District Court Ruling. 15.

 f. The Denial of Certificate of Appealability. 16.

REASONS FOR GRANTING THE WRIT.

 I. THE LOWER FEDERAL COURT'S SUMMARY DENIAL OF PETITIONER'S REQUEST FOR CERTIFICATE OF APPEALABILITY ON THE SUMMARY DENIAL OF PETITIONER'S HABEAS CORPUS APPLICATION WAS TOTALLY ERRONEOUS. (Slack v McDaniels (2000) 529 U.S. 473.) 19.

 II. THE LOWER FEDERAL COURT'S SUMMARY DENIAL OF PETITIONER'S CLAIM ON HIS DEFENSE OF "IMPERFECT SELF-DEFENSE" WAS TOTALLY ERRONEOUS. (Jackson v Virginia (1979) 443 U.S. 307; In re Winship (1970) 397 U.S. 358; Sixth & Fourteenth Amendments, U.S. Const.).

 a. Introduction. 21.

 b. Summary of Facts. 21.

 1. The Implied Malice Instruction Violates Fundamental Fairness at Trial. 23.

 2. The Instructional Scheme Defining "Implied Malice Murder" is a Vague or Indefinite Law. 23.

 3. The Presumption of "Implied Malice" in the Instructions to the Jury is Constitutionally Impermissible... 24.

 III. THE SUMMARY DISMISSAL OF PETITIONER'S RIGHT TO THE EFFECTIVE ASSISTANCE OF COUNSEL CLAIM WAS TOTALLY ERRONEOUS. (Strickland v Washington (1984) 466 U.S. 668; Custis v United States (1994) 511 U.S. 485; Sixth & Fourteenth Amendments, U.S. Const.)

 a. Introduction. 25.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

(Continued)—

b. Facts of the Case. 26.

c. Imperfect Self-Defense Should Result in a Summary Acquittal of the Murder Charges. 26.

IV. PETITIONER'S SENTENCE ON A VOLUNTARY MANSLAUGHTER WHICH IS AGGRAVATED TO THE UPPER TERM FOR THE USE OF A WEAPON AND AN ADDITIONAL TERM IS IMPOSED FOR A GUN USE ENHANCEMENT VIOLATES STATE AND FEDERAL LAWS GENERALLY AND THE DOUBLE JEOPARDY CLAUSE PARTICULARLY. (Brecht v Abrahamson (1993) 507 U.S. 619; Fifth and Fourteenth Amendments, U.S. Const.)

a. Introduction. 29.

b. Facts of the Case. 29.

c. The Sentencing Court Violated Due Process by Imposing the Upper Term Sentence. 31.

d. The Trial Court Violated Petitioner's Due Process Rights by Failing to Accept the Jury's Determination that the Crime was not a Murder and by Finding Facts not Found by the Jury. 34.

e. The State of California is Collaterally Estopped From Finding a Murder was Committed and the Circumstances Aggravating Petitioner's Sentence Violates the Fifth Amendment Double Jeopardy Clause. 38.

CONCLUSION. 40.

INDEX TO APPENDICES

APPENDIX A Stevenson v Claude Finn, Warden, ORDER DENYING PETITION FOR A WRIT OF HABEAS CORPUS (#CIV-F-02-5137 HGB HC) (August 5, 2002) (unpublished).

APPENDIX B Stevenson v Claude Finn, Warden, JUDGMENT IN A CIVIL ACTION (#CIV-F-02-5137 HGB HC) (August 7, 2002) (unpublished).

APPENDIX C Stevenson v Claude Finn, Warden, ORDER (denying request for certificate of appealability) (02-16797/#CIV-F-02-5137 HGB HC) (March 18, 2003) (unpublished).

APPENDIX D Stevenson v Claude Finn, Warden, ORDER DENYING REQUEST FOR CERTIFICATE OF APPEALABILITY (#CIV-F-02-5137 HGB HC) (September 5, 2002). (unpublished).

INDEX TO APPENDICES

(Continued)—

- APPENDIX E Stevenson v Claude Finn, Warden, District Court DOCKET SHEET (#CIV-F-02-5137 HGB HC) (September 6, 2002).
- APPENDIX F People v Stevenson, OPINION (5th App. Dist. #F031856) (December 14, 1999) (unpublished).
- APPENDIX G People v Stevenson, DENIAL (Cal. Supreme. #S085245) (February 23, 2000) (unpublished).
- APPENDIX H In re Stevenson, MINUTE ORDER (Fresno Co. #142552) (January 29, 2001) (unpublished).
- APPENDIX I In re Stevenson, ORDER (5th App. Dist. #F037741) (March 29, 2001) (unpublished).
- APPENDIX J In re Stevenson, ORDER (Cal. Supreme #S099354) (December 19, 2001) (unpublished).
- APPENDIX K Stevenson v Finn, Warden, NOTICE OF APPEAL (#CIV-F-02-5137 HGB HC) (September 4, 2002).
- APPENDIX L Stevenson v Finn, Warden, REQUEST FOR CERTIFICATE OF APPEALABILITY AND DECLARATION IN SUPPORT THEREOF (28 U.S.C. § 2253) (#CIV-F-02-5137 HGB HC) (September 4, 2002).
- APPENDIX M Stevenson v Finn, Warden, PETITION FOR WRIT OF HABEAS CORPUS (Cal. Supreme #S099354) (July 25, 2001).

FILED

AUG 5 2 01 PM '02

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

---000---

DEPUTY

CLOSED

DATE: 8.5.02 *SW*

ROBERT STEVENSON,
Petitioner,

v.

CLAIDE FINN, Warden,
Defendant

CIV-F-02-5137 HGB HC

ORDER DENYING PETITION FOR
A WRIT OF HABEAS CORPUS

Petitioner is a state prisoner proceeding pro se with a petition for writ of habeas corpus pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 2254. The parties hereto having voluntarily consented to this action being assigned to a Magistrate Judge for all purposes pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 636(c), on May 15, 2002, this action was assigned to the undersigned.

BACKGROUND

In the Superior Court of California, County of Stanislaus, petitioner was charged by information with the first-degree murder of William Graham. At a trial by jury, petitioner was convicted of the lesser included offense of voluntary manslaughter with a finding of personal use of a firearm. Petitioner was sentenced to state prison for the upper term of eleven years plus a term of four years for the use of a firearm enhancement for an aggregate term of 15 years.

The conviction and sentence was affirmed by the California Court of Appeal, Fifth Appellate District (hereinafter "5th DCA), in an unpublished opinion filed on December 14, 1999. The California Supreme Court denied review without comment or citation of

17

UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS
FOR THE NINTH CIRCUIT

FILED

MAR 18 2003

CATHY A. CATTERSON, CLERK
U.S. COURT OF APPEALS

ROBERT STEVENSON,

Petitioner - Appellant,

v.

CLAUDE FINN, Warden,

Respondent - Appellee.


No. 02-16797

D.C. No. CV-02-05137-HGB HC
Eastern California
(Sacramento)

FILED

ORDER

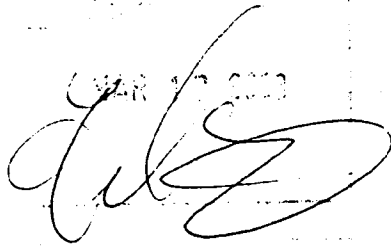
MAR 24 2003

CLERK, U.S. DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
BY 

Before: BEEZER and McKEOWN, Circuit Judges.

The request for a certificate of appealability is denied. See 28 U.S.C.

§ 2253(c)(2). All pending motions are denied.

MAR 18 2003


20